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FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0328  
INFO RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE  
RUEHRG/AMCONSUL RECIFE  
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO  
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 000070

SIPDIS  
STATE INR/R/MR  
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DEPT PASS USTR  
4322/MAC/OLAC/JAFEE

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [OPRC](#) [OIIP](#) [BR](#) [XM](#) [XR](#) [KMDR](#)  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: VENEZUELA PRESS FREEDOM

Chavez Advances towards Dictatorship

Editorial in center-right O Estado de S. Paulo (1-28) notes:  
"....It is evident that Chavez increased violence against freedom of the press in a useless attempt to obfuscate the real situation of the deteriorating Venezuelan economy and the Bolivarian public administration.....The reaction among the Venezuelan people to Chavez's decisions has been growing.....Chavez's moves to limit press freedom are not an isolated phenomenon in Latin America....In other countries such as Bolivia with Evo Morales, Ecuador with Rafael Correa and Argentina with the Kirchner couple.....those in power have adopted concrete measures to curb the press."  
White